

a great son was truly a testament to Daryle Holloway.

I know his mother, Olander Belfield Holloway, is probably watching us today. When I talked to her, she said: CEDRIC, I just feel so special that people remember my son and remember the fact that he died in the line of duty doing what he wanted to do the most, and that was protect the citizens of New Orleans.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for bringing this bill to the floor and to once again offer the Holloway family my sincerest condolences. I hope that this postal facility will serve as a reminder of Officer Holloway's courage and compassion for generations to come.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, clearly, as we just heard, Officer Holloway is exactly the kind of person that we should recognize as a country. It is also a reminder—and I say this representing hundreds, if not thousands, of Philadelphia police officers in my district. It is a reminder of just how dangerous the job of being a police officer is in our society.

It is quite clear that Officer Holloway paid the ultimate sacrifice to Louisiana and also to our country. He is worthy of this honor. I urge all those in this House to adopt this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3082.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FRANCIS MANUEL ORTEGA POST OFFICE

Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3274) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4567 Rockbridge Road in Pine Lake, Georgia, as the "Francis Manuel Ortega Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3274

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FRANCIS MANUEL ORTEGA POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4567 Rockbridge Road in Pine Lake, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Francis Manuel Ortega Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility re-

ferred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Francis Manuel Ortega Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. RUSSELL. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3274, introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON). The bill designates the post office located at 4567 Rockbridge Road in Pine Lake, Georgia, as the Francis Manuel Ortega Post Office.

Madam Speaker, Officer Ortega was a dedicated public servant who was tragically killed in the line of duty. He was born in New York City on February 27, 1980. He later attended Lawrence High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts. At the time of his death, he was pursuing an associate of science degree in criminal justice from Griffin Technical College in Griffin, Georgia.

Officer Ortega had two children, Frankey and Kaylie. He worked as a part-time officer at Pine Lake Police Department and as a full-time officer at Georgia Regional Hospital. His dedication to peace and safety compelled Officer Ortega to regularly work 80-hour weeks.

Tragically, on August 11, 2005, a suspect fatally shot Officer Ortega in front of the Pine Lake Post Office during a routine traffic stop. It is only fitting that this post office be named in honor of this dedicated public servant.

Madam Speaker, Officer Ortega will be remembered for his commitment to justice and courage in the face of danger. He desired to stand up for what was right and not what was easy, having made the ultimate sacrifice in giving his life for the protection of his community.

Naming this post office after Officer Francis Ortega will memorialize his passion for justice and tremendous dedication to the community of Pine Lake, Georgia. I urge Members to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) in order to speak and elaborate a little more on Officer Ortega's life and his sacrifice and service.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member, and I also thank the chair for bringing this bill forward. I also want to thank the members of the DeKalb County, Georgia, chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police, as well as the Georgia chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police, for helping us with this legislation.

Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 3274, a bill to rename the Pine Lake, Georgia, Post Office in honor of a fallen police officer, Officer Francis Manuel Ortega.

On August 11, 2005, Officer Ortega was tragically killed in front of the Pine Lake Post Office while conducting a routine traffic stop. Officer Ortega was shot and killed after stopping a vehicle for a minor traffic violation.

As Officer Ortega communicated with dispatch, the perpetrator exited his vehicle and approached the police cruiser. The perpetrator ignored Officer Ortega's order to get back into his vehicle, and a struggle ensued. The perpetrator pulled a gun, shot, and killed Officer Ortega. The killer then ran into the post office and committed suicide.

Officer Ortega was a part-time officer of the Pine Lake Police Department, and he was a full-time officer at the Georgia Regional Hospital. Officer Ortega, like many men and women who choose law enforcement as a career, was not driven by the mere pursuit of wealth. Officer Ortega was motivated by the desire to serve others and to keep our communities safe.

Unfortunately, because society doesn't pay police officers the full value of their service, Officer Ortega was forced to work a number of part-time jobs. His dedication to peace and safety within the community compelled him to work, regularly, 80-hour workweeks. As the chair just mentioned, he was a student pursuing a degree in criminal justice.

Officer Ortega is survived by his parents, Francisco and Luz; his sister, Joann; and his children, Frankey and Kaylie.

Officer Ortega made the ultimate sacrifice and gave his life to protect his community. I can think of no better way to preserve his memory and to honor his legacy than to dedicate this facility as the Francis Manuel Ortega Post Office Building.

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Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, like we heard previously about Officer Holloway, Officer Francis Manuel Ortega is clearly worthy of this honor.

My heartfelt sympathies go to his family. I hope today it might bring them some small measure of comfort.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3274.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MELVOID J. BENSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3601) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 Post Road, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, as the "Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3601

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MELVOID J. BENSON POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 Post Road, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, shall be known and designated as the "Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. RUSSELL. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3601, introduced by my colleague from Rhode Island, Congressman JAMES LANGEVIN. The bill designates the post office located at 7715 Post Road, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, as the Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Benson was born on February 13, 1930, in Jackson, Tennessee, and moved to North Kingstown, Rhode Island, in the 1960s. Once there, Ms. Benson dedicated her life to public service and to the people of the State of Rhode Island.

In 1965, she began what would become a 25-year teaching career in the North Kingstown School Department. Ms. Benson then served in the Rhode Island State House of Representatives for 14

years and spent the subsequent 8 years serving on the North Kingstown School Committee.

She served on the School Committee until 2014, when, at the age of 84, Ms. Benson made the decision not to seek reelection. Madam Speaker, all told, Ms. Benson spent nearly 50 years in public service.

In February 2015, Ms. Benson was honored with a lifetime achievement award from the North Kingstown Democratic Town Committee.

In continued appreciation to Ms. Benson, Representative LANGEVIN introduced H.R. 3601, which names a post office in her honor.

The Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building would be an important fixture showing the gratitude of many for Ms. Benson's years of dedication to her community and her service to the State of Rhode Island.

I urge Members to support the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), my friend.

Mr. LANGEVIN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I am truly honored and pleased to rise today in support of H.R. 3601, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 Post Road, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, as the Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building.

As my colleague stated, for more than 50 years Mel Benson has been a consummate public servant, dedicating her time to educating our youth, fighting for social justice, building up our communities, and giving back to her friends and neighbors.

Born Melvoid Estes on February 13, 1930, in Jackson, Tennessee, Mel grew up in the segregated South, but that did not stop her from pursuing an education and becoming active in politics.

Her father worked for the railroad, and her mother was a teacher. According to Mel, they both instilled in her the importance of education. "Every generation," they said, "must do better than the last."

Mel took their advice to heart and made education a priority. She graduated from high school in 1947 and went on to receive her bachelor's degree from Lane College in social science with a minor in education. Two years later she married her high school sweetheart, Arnathia "Ben" Benson, who joined the Navy after college.

Mel taught her first class at an all-Black school in Madison County. However, as a Navy wife, she wouldn't stay in Tennessee for long. She and her husband were eventually stationed at Quonset Naval Base in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, which would become Mel's new home and a community she would forever change for the better.

After moving to Rhode Island in the 1960s, Mel taught in the North

Kingstown school system for 25 years. She educated students at Hamilton Elementary, the former Quonset Elementary; Davisville Middle School; and Wickford Middle School.

Every student she taught was touched by her wisdom and guidance. According to Matthew Leonard, chairman of the North Kingstown Democratic Town Committee, who had Mel as a teacher in the eighth grade, she possessed a wonderful gift.

Her whole focus was education and children," Matthew recounted. "She believed the future is in children, and our greatest goal is to continue on to the next generation."

She carried that belief all the way to the State house of representatives, where she became the first Black woman elected to the Rhode Island Legislature from the Second Congressional District and the second Black woman elected to the legislature from the entire State.

According to Mel, she never thought of herself as a Black woman in the statehouse. She was there to do the work of the people. That is exactly what she did, proudly representing the town of North Kingstown for 14 years.

I was fortunate enough to serve with Mel in the statehouse and she made a wonderful teammate and friend. She always spoke her mind and knew how to get things done.

As State Senator James Sheehan put it, "Mel could be tough as bricks. When she was after something, she'd let you know it."

It was that passion that led to some of her proudest accomplishments as a member of the Rhode Island General Assembly, including her early involvement with the planning and development of Quonset Business Park and particularly the rehabilitation of the old Kiefer Park into modern housing.

After a distinguished career in the statehouse, Mel was elected to the North Kingstown School Committee, where she served for 8 years, until 2014. At the age of 84, Mel decided not to seek reelection. But 2 years later, she still hasn't lost her spark.

Well known for her perseverance, wit, and unmistakable candor, Mel has touched the lives of countless Rhode Islanders—my own included—and people still love to regale in stories of the great Mama Mel.

State Representative Robert Craven, who has known Mel since 1974, described her as someone who just relished the opportunity to be involved in people's lives and make a difference in every capacity, as a wife, a mother, a schoolteacher, a State representative, and a School Committee member.

Beth Cullen, who considers Mel like a mother, characterized Mel's impact upon our community perfectly:

"She really taught North Kingstown a lesson that it doesn't matter what you look like. It's what you do; and she lived it every day."

Madam Speaker, I couldn't agree more. Mel has truly dedicated her life